



AGRICULTURE ON THE RISE

Office of Governor Mitch Daniels

Volume 1, Issue 1

September 11, 2006

Hoosier Farmers Benefit from Governor's Asia Trade Missions

Governor Mitch Daniels' recent trip to Asia brought business to Indiana farmers.

The unveiling of the Premium Indiana Forest logo to the Asian market is a global marketing campaign to promote the use of Hoosier forestry products.

The Governor also announced a \$43 million expansion of Indiana Meat Packers Corp. in Delphi, Indiana, adding 125 jobs to the central Indiana plant.

Following the Governor's first trade mission a Taiwanese Agricultural Goodwill Mission signed a long-term agreement to purchase Indiana corn and soybeans.

UNPRECEDENTED FOCUS ON AGRICULTURE

Governor Daniels has brought agriculture to the forefront in the most pro-agriculture Administration the state has ever seen.

With the creation of the Indiana State Department of Agriculture (ISDA), Indiana has seen \$1.36 billion in capital investment in agriculture and 1,155 new jobs created.

Indiana Farm Bureau President Don Villwock said he is "pleased with the work the new administration has done." He noted instead of becoming a bureaucracy, the ISDA has been a catalyst for growth and change in the Indiana Ag economy (Brownfield Ag News for America).

"If we are going to raise the income of Hoosiers and become an economic leader...then agriculture will have to be at the core of it," said Daniels.

INDIANA'S BIOFUEL EXPANSION WILL BRING GROWTH TO FARMERS AND RURAL AREAS

Indiana is quickly becoming a leader in alternative fuel production.

With the world's largest biodiesel plant scheduled to be built near Claypool, Indiana, and 14 more biofuels plant announcements throughout the state, alternative fuels are providing a source of growth and development to Hoosier farmers and rural areas.

"It's been a hectic year of dramatic progress in renewable fuels development in our state," said Governor Mitch Daniels.

Indiana is currently the fifth largest corn producer and fourth largest soybean producer in the United States. The facilities under construction will create 595 new jobs for Hoosier workers. In total, they will put at least \$17.5 million into local farmers' pockets and invest more than \$1.27 billion in capital expenses.

Upon completion, the Claypool facility will be one of the world's first biodiesel production plants to be fully integrated with a soybean processing plant. The biodiesel plant will produce more than 80 million gallons of biodiesel per year and employ more than 350 Hoosiers in ongoing and construction related positions.



Governor Mitch Daniels refuels RV1 with biodiesel at Wolf Lake

40th E85 Pump Open for Business

Indiana reached another milestone in alternative fuel availability when the state celebrated its 40th public E85 pump in Greenfield on July 12, 2006. Many more E85 pumps are planned to open across the state, including pumps at Meijer stores. These additional public pumps will help boost alternative fuels consumption by Hoosiers.

"Indiana is rapidly emerging as a producer of renewable fuels. That must be matched by greater convenience for consumers," said Governor Mitch Daniels.

When Governor Daniels took office, the state had no public E85 pumps. The state reached its goal of 40 pumps open for use six months ahead of schedule.

Hoosiers Encouraged to Participate in Ag Vision

The Indiana State Department of Agriculture recently unveiled its vision to ensure that local communities and counties understand that modern agriculture can be part of their long-term economic landscape.

The goal of the Agriculture Economic Development Initiative is to bring together non-traditional partners such as city planners, farmers, economic development leaders, local elected officials, and agribusinesses to collaborate on critical eco-

nomic development and agriculture issues.

The initiative was successfully piloted in southwestern Indiana and will move throughout the state during the summer months.